



**For Immediate Release:** July 6, 2016

**Contact:** Charles B. Pyle, Director of Communications, (804) 371-2420  
Michelle Stoll, Communications Coordinator, (804) 225-2543

## Virginia Board of Education Seeks Input on Initiatives

RICHMOND, Va. — The Virginia Board of Education is seeking community input during a series of public hearings this summer as it examines how best to prepare students for academic and career success. The public hearings will focus on the following topics:

- Development of the Profile of a Virginia Graduate, including changes to high school graduation requirements and future accreditation models;
- Implementation of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Virginia's accountability system;
- Recommendations regarding the Standards of Quality (SOQ); and
- Identifying conditions and needs of public education for inclusion in the board's comprehensive plan and annual report to the Governor and General Assembly.

"Families, educators and community members have an opportunity to share their big ideas and suggestions with us during several public hearings across Virginia this summer," said Superintendent of Public Instruction Steven R. Staples. "These priority projects are still in the development stage, so input from the public will help us craft specific plans for success and accountability."

The dates and locations of the public hearings are:

- **Thursday, July 14 — Manassas**  
6:30 p.m.  
Osborn High School (Auditorium)  
9005 Tudor Lane  
Manassas, VA 20110
- **Tuesday, July 19 — Williamsburg-James City County**  
6:30 p.m.  
Lafayette High School (Auditorium)  
4460 Longhill Road  
Williamsburg, VA 23188
- **Wednesday, August 24 — Abingdon**  
6:30 p.m.  
Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center  
One Partnership Cir, Abingdon, VA 24210
- **Thursday, August 25 — Lynchburg**  
6:30 p.m.  
Heritage High School  
3020 Wards Ferry Road  
Lynchburg, VA 24502

Speakers are asked to sign in upon arrival and limit comments to three minutes to allow time for the board to hear from all who wish to comment. More information about the public hearings visit the VDOE website. [\(Link to new page\)](#)

###